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MEMORANDUM FOR: DMRD

ATTENTION : Colonel Leo P. Geary

SUBJECT : Security Classification of U-2 Photography

**REFERENCE : Discussion between Col. Leo P. Geary,
AFICG-S, and AD/SA, 1 Apr 53, Subj: As
Above**

1. Taking cognizance of the cumulative extent of publicity focused upon the performance capability of the U-2 aircraft in recent years a valid question has been raised as to the security requirement that all U-2 photography, regardless of content, bear a minimum classification of Secret.

2. Effective immediately this requirement is rescinded, and U-2 photography henceforth should bear the security classification warranted by the content of the photography. Photography of non-sensitive targets classified Secret in the past merely because it was obtained by a U-2 aircraft can be downgraded as appropriate. This change is not intended to affect the special security classification of photography collected under Project ISMAELIST nor the procedures established for downgrading such photography.

Signed Herbert Scoville, Jr.

HERBERT SCOVILLE, JR.
Deputy Director
(Research)

cc: C/COMSEC
D/NPIC

Signature Recommended:

AD/OEA

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